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This article explores Toni Morrison's (1931) Home (2012), a book that delves into the concepts of identity and belonging as understood through Homi K. Bhabha's theories. Given Morrison's position within the white writing community, her works often subtly construct new identities for her characters by examining elements such as class, gender, race, and poverty in male-dominated societies or those influenced by colonial powers. The text further illuminates ideas like "liminal," "ambivalent," and "hybrid identity" of colonized people within a "Third Space of Enunciation." Additionally, it touches on the concept of "unhomeliness" that pertains to being separated from home and its impact on migrants' identities, particularly affecting Black characters in this novel. By considering the characters' situations, it becomes clear that the identity conditions presented are reflective of the social and political contexts they inhabit. Frank Money, a troubled veteran of the Korean War, returns to racist America with physical and emotional scars that leave him crippled by apathy. But when he learns of his sister Cee's danger, Frank finds an unexpected courage within himself, leading him on a journey back to their hometown in Georgia where he rescues Cee from a eugenicist doctor. Along the way, Frank's past, including his failed relationship with Lily and the horrors of war, haunt him as he struggles with alcoholism and PTSD. Frank's stories about his sister Cee, ex-girlfriend Lily, and step-grandmother Lenore are presented through a first-person narrative that reflects on his experiences in retrospect. This approach creates distance between Frank as the narrator and the third-person sections of the story, leading to subtle inconsistencies that highlight the subjective nature of truth. The novel begins with Frank describing an event from his childhood where he and Cee sneak into a forbidden field, witnessing two stallions fight, and Frank notes the beauty of the horses. The narrative shifts to third person as adult Frank plots his escape from a mental hospital after receiving a letter warning him that Cee is in danger. After successfully escaping, Frank meets Reverend John Locke and his wife, who provide him with shoes, food, and money before he leaves for Georgia to rescue his sister. As Frank reflects on his post-war life, he shares about his experiences during the Korean War and struggles with violent episodes and PTSD. His ex-girlfriend Lily helped calm him, but their relationship ended due to Frank's inability to keep a job. He then meets Billy Watson in Chicago, who lets him stay the night at his house and takes him shopping for new clothes. The story switches back to first person as Frank recounts his family's move from Texas to Georgia after being forced to evacuate during the war. His mother gave birth to Cee in a church basement shortly after the evacuation, naming her Ycidra (Cee for short). The narrative then shifts back to third person and tells Cee's story. Cee grew up in Lotus, Georgia, living with relatives who didn't exactly welcome her presence. Her step-grandmother, Lenore, would often ignore or beat Cee and her brother Frank, making Cee rely heavily on Frank for emotional support. However, when Frank left to join the army, Cee was left alone and struggled to cope without him. She eventually ran away from home at 15 with a boy named Prince, but he abandoned her in Atlanta, leaving her destitute. After working odd jobs, Cee started taking care of Dr. and Mrs. Scott's household as an assistant, where she found a sense of belonging. Meanwhile, Frank was trying to turn his life around after returning from the war. He met Lily, who shared his appreciation for the fragility of women. However, their relationship ended when Frank couldn't hold down a job or provide for her future goals. Lily had been saving up to buy a home but discovered that as a black person, she was unable to do so. Frank eventually left Lotus to join the army due to feeling stuck and hopeless in his hometown. His friends Mike and Stuff shared similar sentiments, leading them all to seek new opportunities elsewhere. As for Lenore, her life was marked by tragedy when her first husband was murdered. She used the insurance money to move to Lotus and married Salem Money to avoid loneliness. However, when Salem's relatives arrived, Lenore felt suffocated and resented baby Cee's constant crying. After a minor stroke left her with slurred speech, Lenore became isolated from her family once again. Frank recounts a haunting tale of his past, revolving around a young Korean girl he used to encounter while on guard duty near a trash heap. She reminded him of Cee, prompting him to let her scavenge for food amidst the trash. However, during a shift rotation, the little girl approached another soldier and was shot in the head by him due to alleged sexual temptation. Frank's reflections on his comrades Mike and Snuff, who died during the war, weigh heavily on his conscience. The memories of these events haunt Frank and fuel his desire to drink. Frank's resolve is strengthened when he encounters Dr. Scott's office in Atlanta, where Cee is being held captive and subjected to medical experiments. Sarah, Cee's friend, had sent a letter requesting Frank's presence. Upon meeting Cee, Frank is struck by her resilience as she recovers from the experiments under the care of Lotus's women. The community teaches her valuable skills like quilting, fostering her independence and self-worth. Frank eventually opens up about his past, confessing that he was the one responsible for the little girl's death due to his own shame and arousal. This dark secret continues to haunt Frank, even as Cee moves on with her life. Jerome's fate was sealed when he was forced to fight his father to the death. This event coincided with Cee and Frank witnessing the burial of a dead body as children, which is what drew them to uncover the truth about their family's dark past. Frank requests that Cee give him her first completed quilt, and together they exhume the body, wrapping its bones in the fabric before reburying it. A final inscription - "Here Stands a Man" - serves as a poignant reminder of the man who had met his end. Download the entire Home study guide as a printable PDF! Download eNotes.com will help you with any book or any question. Our summaries and analyses are written by experts, and your questions are answered by real teachers. Join eNotes